Supply of gas to RGTPP

*289. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) how much quantity of gas is presently available of Ramgarh Gas Thermal Power Project (RGTPP);

(b) the quantum of additional quantity of gas which would still be required to run the plant at full capacity;

(c) the name of the agency who would supply additional gas for this project; and

(d) by when, gas will be made available to run both the Gas Turbines at full load?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) and (b) Ramgarh Gas Thermal Power Station (RGTPS) has gas allocation of 0.75 Million Standard Cubic metres Per Day (MMSCMD) and, at present, GAIL (India) Limited (GAIL) is supplying this quantity to them. The gas requirement for the operation of RGTPP at 90% Plant Load Factor (PLF) is projected to be 1.18 MMSCMD. The entire gas presently available from the producing fields of ONGC/OIL in Jaisalmer area, about 0.75 MMSCMD, has been committed for supply to RGTPP.

(c) and (d) Gas from the fields of OIL and ONGCL at Dandewala and Gamnewala respectively is being supplied to the plant. This is being done through the pipeline network of GAIL, OIL is expecting an additional gas availability of 0.2. MMSCMD by 2007-08. This would take the overall gas availability to 0.95 MMSCMD. Negotiations for commercial arrangements for the additional gas are underway.

Additional morning flight to Ranchi from Delhi

*290. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) by when, Ranchi will be connected to Delhi by an additional morning flight; and

(b) whether there is any plan with Indian Airlines to have a direct flight from Ranchi to Mumbai?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Indian Airlines has presently no plans to operate an additional morning flight from Ranchi to Delhi. This would depend on traffic potential and availability of aircraft.

(b) Indian Airlines has no plans to introduce a direct flight from Ranchi to Mumbai.

Mortgaging of tractors for taking tractor loan

†*291. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the farmers of Mahoba District of Uttar Pradesh have bought tractors by taking loans from banks for which they mortgaged their tractors and their land;

(b) the number of tractors for which farmers took loans from the year 2002, till date;

(c) whether Government are aware that due to inadequate rainfall these farmers could not deposit the instalments of tractors and now their land is being auctioned and tractors of many farmers have been seized; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to save farmers from this situation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Loans for 3195 tractors are outstanding in the books of all the Banks in Mahoba District in Uttar Pradesh, as on 31st October, 2006.

(c) and (d) Wherever farmers have not been able to repay the Bank's dues in the district, relief has been provided by way of restructuring and rescheduleement to enable them to pay their dues over a longer period of time. In cases of wilful default and when borrowers do not pay dues despite persuasion, follow-up and personal contracts, the banks are constrained to initiate recovery proceedings in accordance with their recovery policies. Such recovery policies permit taking possession of tractors.

Complaints of fraud in IFCI

†*292. SHRI MAHENDRA SAHNI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaint regarding fraud in Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI);

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.